

opc Bulletin

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Chris Hedges on Myths And Realities of War

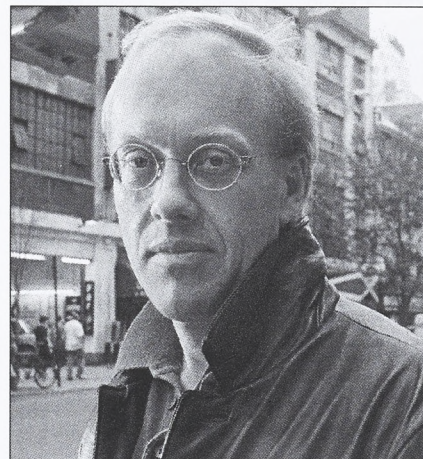
by Sonya K. Fry

Chris Hedges, formerly the Middle East (1991-1995) and then Balkan (1995-1998) bureau chief for *The New York Times*, knows war up close and in his new book "War Is a Force That Gives Us Meaning," he meditates on his involvement in "the elixir of war," its seductiveness as a powerful force that gives meaning and direction to one's existence as an antidote to the grayness and emptiness of life without spiritual direction.

After more than a decade of war reporting, Hedges "stepped back to reflect on the carnage he witnessed. The result is a brilliant, thoughtful, timely and unsettling book whose greatest merit is that it will rattle jingoists, pacifists, moralists, nihilists, politicians and professional soldiers equally" (book review by Abraham Verghese, *The New York Times*, September 29, 2002). The book is not anti-war, but rather a reflection on the realities, the myths that create a war-like situation, and the slow corrosiveness to culture and society. Hedges compels us to look the reality of war square in the eye. He wants us to understand its motivations and its consequences. On the one hand war is hell and on the other it is an emotionally intense and even exhilarating experience. "He does not look away from the 'diseased eroticism' of war. He has seen first hand that men experience sexual thrill in the torture of prisoners, the annihilation of villages, the butchery

practiced in rape and atrocity" (book review by Richard Nunley, *Berkshire Eagle*, September 11, 2002).

Hedges argues that the case for war must be made by "...demoniz(ing) the enemy so that our opponent is no longer human. We view ourselves, our people, as the embodiment of absolute goodness." Add the fervor of nationalism and the stage is set for a titanic struggle between good and evil. Reality, however, suggests that even a "just" war brutalizes and corrupts. "Indeed, this entire book is a powerful indictment of the role played by war journalists. The willingness, even eagerness, of large sections of the media to assume responsibility for maintaining the morale of service members and civilians is dangerous. Their willingness (during the Gulf War, for instance) to cooperate with strict censorship constraints was scandalous. By ensuring that



Chris Hedges

the victims remained 'faceless and nameless phantoms'....the media abnegated their responsibilities. War journalists and photographers 'wanted to be used.' They were seduced by the glamour of war and knew they were an integral part of the war effort. Hedges is man enough to include himself in his unflattering assessment of the press corps" (book review by

(Continued on Page 4)

Ford President on Grill At Next OPC Breakfast

A conversation with Nick Scheele, president of the Ford Motor Co., will highlight the second in the OPC's series of breakfast discussions on business topics.

Past president Bill Holstein, who has written extensively about the auto industry, will serve as interlocutor. He will probe Scheele on topics ranging from the global auto shakeout (will Ford be among the survivors?) to his personal reaction to the culture of Detroit (British-born, he was formerly CEO of Jaguar and



Nick Scheele

head of Ford's European operations). Scheele (pronounced SHAY-luh) will also take questions from the floor.

Scheele is at the eye of a major storm swirling around Ford. The company trails both GM and Daimler-Chrysler in its sales record so far this year, its stock recently traded at an eleven-year low, and it carries a mountain of debt that causes serious worries on Wall Street. Critics question whether the company's plan for an overhaul is credible, and Ford's CEO, William Clay Ford Jr., is pushing to reassure the business community.

The first business breakfast on Sept. 13 featured Peter G. Peterson, co-chairman of the Conference Board commis-

(Continued on Page 4)

Inside...

Remarkable Stories from Courageous Women Journalists	2
Hong Kong's Martin Lee On Anti-Press Moves	3
People	3
In Memory	6
New Books	8

Remarkable Stories From Courageous Women Journalists

by Sonya K. Fry

In her first program as OPC president Alexis Gelber of *Newsweek* presided over a breakfast discussion featuring the three women who were in New York City to accept the IWMF (International Women's Media Foundation) Courage Award.

Their stories, each unique, out of Zimbabwe, Russia and Afghanistan had a common thread—telling the truth to people who didn't want to hear it. The stories were challenging, at best, and dangerous, at the worst. Individual governments and societies do not want the "truth" exposed, and much of the world also wants to close its eyes to the injustice and violence.

Sandra Nyaira, the political editor at *The Daily News* in Harare, Zimbabwe, spoke of government sponsored violence that President Robert Mugabe did not want the world to know about. He banned the international press and then intimidated the local press with jail and death threats. The tactic succeeded. Despite courageous reporting by Zimbabwean journalists, the world press largely ignored 20,000 killings there, waking up to Mugabe's excesses only when white farmers had their land confiscated.

Anna Politkovskaya, a reporter for the independent newspaper *Novaya Gazeta*



Alexis Gelber, OPC President; Sandra Nyaira from Zimbabwe; Kathy Gannon, AP Bureau Chief in Pakistan and Afghanistan; Anna Politkovskaya from Russia and Lynn Povich of the IWMF.

in Moscow, told of a more sophisticated intimidation from the FSB (formerly the KGB). For her reporting from Chechnya she faces 3 separate "investigations" and found it difficult to get permission to come to New York to accept her award. Anna said that finding the "truth" has become even more difficult in the war between Russia and Chechnya since Presidents Bush and Putin "have become buddies"—and Chechnya is no longer called a war, but an anti-terrorist operation. The fact that she is threatened both by the Russian government and by the Chechan rebels makes her feel that she is doing something right as a journalist.

OPC member Kathy Gannon is the

Associated Press bureau chief in Pakistan and Afghanistan. She has been there for 14 years and is one of the few people on the ground who knew the territory when the US began its war on terrorism. "After 9/11 reporting became more difficult because of what people want to hear," she said. The challenge has been to make both sides heard. Americans want to know that the lives of Afghan women had improved after the overthrow of the Taliban so the American press features pictures of women throwing off their burkas, going to school and the like. Kathy says that for the vast majority of women everyday

(Continued on Page 6)

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PEOPLE...with Al Kaff

GORDON CURRIE/BILL SHINN

ANN ARBOR, Michigan:

London-based correspondents **Adaora Udoji**, 34, of ABC NewsOne, and **Ron Allen**, 45, of NBC News, were married Oct. 5 at First Unitarian Universalist Church in Ann Arbor. The bride covers Europe, Middle East, Asia and Africa for NewsOne, a service for ABC TV affiliates. Allen covers stories in Europe, Middle East and Africa for "NBC Nightly News" and the "Today" show. The couple met in 1995 while covering the O. J. Simpson trial. After 9/11, their networks sent them to



Adaora Udoji and Ron Allen

Islamabad, and he proposed marriage after they returned to London in December.

BEVERLY HILLS, California:

Norman Sklarewitz, a *Wall Street Journal* correspondent in Tokyo several decades ago, now is a freelance travel writer. This year he has articles in four inflight magazines: *Silk Road*, published by Dragon Air; *Dynasty of China Airlines*; *Silver Kris* of Singapore Airlines; and *Winds of Japan Airlines*.

CHICAGO:

New OPC board member **James O'Shea**, managing editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, is expanding his paper's foreign coverage. After sharing reports from Havana with other *Tribune*-owned newspapers, Jim earlier this year appointed Gary



James O'Shea

Marx to report exclusively for the *Tribune* from Cuba, Colombia and Venezuela, and he shifted **Liz Sly** from Tokyo to New Delhi to cover South Asia and the Middle East. The *Tribune* now has 14 foreign correspondents. Jim told "People" he tries to fly to New York from Chicago once a month to attend OPC board meetings.

FAIRFIELD, Connecticut:

A caption in the October *Bulletin* shortchanged the "People" columnist. He was a UPI correspondent in Tokyo 13 years, not two years. Also he was based in Saigon, Taipei, Manila and Hong Kong another 13 years. Starting in Tokyo, he has been writing for the *Bulletin* since 1967.

HONG KONG:

Clare Hollingworth has been covering wars since Sept. 1, 1939, when she flashed a bulletin to London that Nazi Germany had invaded Poland. Do you know any anecdotes about her? For the archives and a possible book, Clare's colleagues in Hong Kong and London are collecting biographical material on her long career as a war and foreign correspondent. Now 90 and nearly blind, Clare has been based in Hong Kong for several years. **Joyce Hor-Chung Lau**, a member of the Hong Kong Foreign Correspondents' Club (FCC), asks for "stories about Clare—good, bad or ugly." Write to Joyce at the FCC, 2 Lower Albert Road, Hong Kong or telephone her at Hong Kong 9190-1365 or E-mail <clareproject888@hotmail.com>

JERUSALEM:

Reuters cameraman **Jussry al-Jamal** was released in October after being held in an Israeli jail without charges since April. Jamal, 23, a Palestinian, was arrested on suspicion of assisting Palestinian militants (June *Bulletin*). Two other journalists arrested in April were still being held in October: **Hussam Abu Alan**, an Agence France-Presse photographer, and **Kamel Jbeil**, a reporter for the Palestinian newspaper *Al-Quds*.

KARMADON, Russia:

Among at least 100 people killed or missing when a glacier broke and crashed down a Caucasus mountain in September was **Sergei Bodrov Jr.**, 30, actor in the Russian film "Prisoner of the Mountains" that was screened by the OPC, the Russian-American Cultural Forum and

(Continued on Page 4)

Hong Kong's Martin Lee On Anti-Press Moves

by Minky Worden

On October 24, ahead of the Jiang Zemin-George Bush summit in Crawford, Texas, OPC members heard from Hong Kong Democratic Party Chairman Martin Lee about the latest developments and the threat to press freedom posed by new "subversion" legislation just introduced in the former British colony.

Since Hong Kong's 1997 handover from Britain to China, the OPC has followed developments in Hong Kong, including the Hong Kong government's recent move to implement a controversial new law on "treason, subversion, secession and sedition." In China, such subversion laws are used to convict and imprison everyone from internet entrepreneurs to journalists to academics.

OPC members asked Martin Lee what this legislation will mean for Hong Kong's vibrant free press and society. He responded that in the future, "journalists must be more sensitive in what you

report. For instance, imagine you want to report on, say, succession within China. If you get a scoop, and you do not source it, you could get 5 years in prison."

Mr. Lee referred OPC members to the government's draft law on subversion, and pointed out the chapter on "Theft of State Secrets," as a pernicious part of the law that could affect both Hong Kong and overseas journalists. Martin Lee also explained that the first tangible effect of the law would be an increase in already prevalent self-censorship—a chill in reporting any sensitive information at all, including financial information.

"It should be up to journalists to report any information they feel is in the public interest—but this law will surely change forever the parameters of what can be reported," said Lee. Absent any international outcry, the Hong Kong subversion law is expected to be passed into law by July 2003.

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 3)

the Harriman Institute in February 1997. In a Moscow dispatch filed after the tragedy by **Michael Wines** of *The New York Times*, Bodrov was described as "Russia's hottest young movie star." Working at 6,000 feet up the mountain, Bodrov had wrapped up the second day of shooting on his latest film when the ice crashed. In the film seen by OPC members, Bodrov played a fearful young conscript who is captured by Chechen rebels to be ransomed or killed. The film was directed by his father.

NEW YORK: Daniel Pearl, *The Wall Street Journal* correspondent who was murdered in Pakistan earlier this year, and four journalists from Colombia, Bangladesh, Kazakhstan and Eritrea will be honored by the Committee to Protect Journalists at a dinner ceremony in the Waldorf-Astoria Nov. 26. Pearl will be honored with the Burton Benjamin Memorial Award given for a lifetime of distinguished achievement for the cause of press freedom, "recognizing his courage, talent and intelligence as a reporter," the Committee said. His widow, **Mariane Pearl**, is scheduled to accept the award.

The Committee's 12th annual Inter-

CHRIS HEDGES

(Continued from Page 1)

Joanna Bourke, *Los Angeles Times*, October 13, 2002).

Chris Hedges will speak to the OPC on Wednesday, November 13 at 5:30pm at Club Quarters. Books will be available for signing. For reservations call the OPC office: 212-626-9220.

OPC BREAKFAST

(Continued from Page 1)

sion on corporate ethics, who previewed the commission's recommendations for reform. "The series opened on a high note, with a terrific talk by Pete Peterson," said Larry Martz, past president who is honchoing the series. "This change in format should allow for some penetrating questions and candid discussion, and we're looking forward to it."

The breakfast is scheduled for Dec. 6 at 8:30 a.m. at Club Quarters. For reservations, call the OPC office at (212) 626-9220. The cost is \$25; checks payable to the Overseas Press Club.

national Press Freedom Awards will go to **Ignacio Gómez**, a Colombian reporter who, the Committee said, "untangled a complex web of violent conspiracies despite routinely receiving death threats and narrowly escaping a kidnapping attempt;" **Tipu Sultan**, a Bangladesh reporter who "was savagely beaten with iron bars and hockey sticks and left for dead after writing an article last year about a corrupt politician [but] miraculously survived the attack;" **Irina Petrushova**, founder and editor-in-chief of the Kazakhstan business weekly *Respublika*, which "exposes government corruption and malfeasance while she has endured grisly death threats, criminal charges and Molotov cocktails that burned *Respublika's* office to the ground;" and **Fesshaye Yohannes**, writer and co-founder of *Setit*, an Eritrean newspaper, who "was imprisoned last September with nine other journalists after authorities banned all of Eritrea's independent newspapers for 'jeopardizing national unity.' He is being held incommunicado without charges."

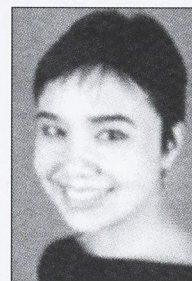
Thomas H. Glocer, chief executive of Reuters Group PLC, will chair the dinner, and OPC member **Tom Brokaw**, NBC news anchor, will be the host. Other speakers include OPC member **Mike Wallace**, CBS News "60 Minutes;" **Paul Steiger**, *The Wall Street Journal*; and **Paula Zahn**, CNN.

George Bookman, chairman of the OPC Admissions Committee, announced in October that **David Fondiller** has joined the committee that oversees membership applications. He replaces **Dwight Sargent**, a longtime committee member who died this spring. Fondiller is director of communications at Marakon Associates, an international management consulting firm, and also an adjunct professor of international business reporting and writing at Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. Other members of the Admissions Committee are **Elinor Griest** and **Marshall Loeb**.

Time's two correspondents in Japan have returned to New York. OPC member **Tim Larimer** took leave to accept a Knight-Bagehot Fellowship in

Economics and Business Journalism at Columbia University, and OPC member **Lisa Takeuchi Cullen** now is assigned to *Time's* New York bureau. A spokesman told "People" the magazine's Tokyo bureau will be re-staffed.

For *Time's* Oct. 14 issue, Cullen wrote a three-page byline article on the plight of white-collar workers in today's U.S. economy, reporting: "White-collar workers are joining the jobless ranks in record numbers, tossed aside by the same companies that not long ago lavished them with signing bonuses and free lattes." Puzzled, the "People" columnist checked two dictionaries, each 2,000-plus pages, and the 20-volume "Oxford English Dictionary" without finding the word 'latte,' so he telephoned Lisa. Laughing, she replied, "Have you been overseas too long?" Caffè latte: Italian for coffee with milk. Lisa, who grew up in Japan, did some outside writing from Tokyo, landing a couple of byline travel articles in the Sunday *New York Times* (January *Bulletin*).



Lisa Cullen

Frank Gibney Jr., a senior writer at *Time*, has resigned from the magazine and is writing a book about AOL Time Warner. Before his New York assignment, he was a *Time* correspondent in Tokyo. His father, **Frank Sr.**, was a *Time* correspondent in New York, Tokyo and London 1947-1954, later with *Newsweek* and *Life* in New York, and then back to Tokyo with the Encyclopedia Britannica. The elder Gibney now is president of the Pacific Basin Institute in Claremont, California.

OPC member **Andy Rooney**, CBS "60 Minutes" humorist, reported in one of his newspaper columns this autumn that he developed carpal tunnel syndrome from too much typing. Andy wrote: "This summer, during my so-called 'vacation' I spent 10 hours a day, seven days a week, finishing a book called 'Common Nonsense'" [October *Bulletin*].

With his usual humor, he went on: "My doctor sent me to an orthopedist, who sent me to a hand specialist. Hand specialists don't have a name for themselves like dermatologists, cardiologists, urologists or gynecologists. They're



David Fondiller

special, though, because they don't do anything else. I have some foot problems and you'd think this hand surgeon could look into that, but they don't do feet. Once my right hand heals after the surgery, I'm going to have to have my left hand done. I don't know how specialized these hand surgeons are. For all I know, I'll have to find someone else who just does left hands."

Meanwhile, Andy upset women sports reporters who cover football, when he commented on the Madison Square Garden TV Network: "The only thing that really bugs me about television's coverage is those damn women they have down on the sidelines who don't know what the hell they're talking about.... I mean, I'm not a sexist person, but a woman has no business being down there trying to make some comment about a football game."

New York's *Daily News* quoted a spokesman for CBS News President and OPCer **Andrew Heyward**: "Andy's entitled to his opinion, no matter how goofy."

PARIS: In handwritten notes, **Mariane Pearl** has thanked people who expressed "solidarity, kindness and generosity that remains a constant source of strength for me" after her husband, **Danny Pearl** of *The Wall Street Journal*, was murdered in Pakistan. She wrote: "Through your messages, you have helped me keep faith in humanity. I will strive to provide **Adam** with a happy and value-creating life, highlighting the commitments I shared with her father." Adam was born May 28 after his father was killed (July/August *Bulletin*).

RIO de JANEIRO: After a siege of more than a week, police arrested gang leader **Elias Pereira da Silva** in September and charged him with the June murder of TV crime reporter **Tim Lopes** (September *Bulletin*). Lopes, 50, was last seen going to a slum neighborhood to witness a dance where gang members sell drugs and force young girls to have sex with them. **Larry Rohter** of *The New York Times* reported: "His death became a symbol of the government's inability to control criminal groups, generating street demonstrations and demands for a reorganization of the police."

SEOUL: Charged with evading millions of dollars in taxes and embezzling company funds, **Bang Sang Hoon**, presi-

dent and publisher of the national daily *Chosun Ilbo*, was sentenced in September to three years in prison and fined about \$4.6 million. The newspaper is one of 23 South Korean national news organizations accused of tax evasion (July/August 2001 *Bulletin*). AP reported that a *Chosun Ilbo* spokesman "said the case was a part of an effort by President Kim Dae Jung's government to muzzle media critics. The newspaper said it would appeal the conviction." *Chosun Ilbo* is South Korea's largest-circulated paper. Seoul District Court also convicted **Bang Gye Sung**, the newspaper's senior manager in the case and gave him a suspended 18-month prison term. The two Bangs are unrelated.

SILVER SPRING, Maryland: The supermarket where the first in a series of sniper victims was killed in the Washington, D.C., area in October is located just outside the retirement community where photojournalist **Max Desfor**, 88, lives. He told "People": "When I go outside, I carry a camera, and if I hear shooting, I'll start shooting." When he was an AP photographer, Desfor won a Pulitzer Prize for his Korean War photo of refugees fleeing across a bombed bridge.

TOKYO: OPC member **Pat Killen** bemoans what foreign correspondents are NOT doing in Japan these days. From Tokyo, he reported to "People" in September: "Japan seems to be a forgotten dateline these days. [OPC member] **Jim Brooke** of *The New York Times* is based here but usually is reporting from Seoul or Kabul or Peshawar. **Ben Fulford** of *Forbes* in Tokyo does stories about Australian businessmen. CBS didn't send anyone to the Junichiro Koizumi-Kim Jong Il [Japan-North Korea leaders] meeting [in Pyongyang]. Seems a far cry from when I arrived here 15 years ago (on the eve of Respect for the Aged Day) and Japan was going to take over the business world." Killen speaks from years overseas. He's a Korean War veteran, UPI correspondent in Honolulu, Karachi, New Delhi, Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Chicago and Washington from 1956-1987, and business reporter and freelancer in Tokyo the past 15 years.

No wonder that during the Korean War GIs called the country frozen Chosen, the Japanese name for Korea. **Takashi Sugishima**, who had just retired

from the business daily *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* where he was a reporter, was seized in North Korea on spying charges in December 1999 and detained until this February (March *Bulletin*). In an interview reported this autumn by OPC member **Howard French** of *The New York Times*, Sugishima said that in one detention house the temperature fell to minus 25 degrees on some winter nights. "I put on every piece of clothing I had until I looked like a balloon, but I was still freezing. But the most difficult thing is there were no medicines there for you, even if you were seriously ill."

WASHINGTON: The Pew International Journalism Program at Johns Hopkins University has published "International News and the Media: The Impact of September 11," a 48-page report on a Pew conference at the National Press Club this summer attended by nearly 300 journalists, and findings of a Pew survey of more than 200 U.S. international news editors.

Richard Sambrook, director of BBC News, was the keynote speaker at the conference. Sambrook said that after 9/11 people asked: "Why haven't we heard of al-Qaeda? What has been going on in the Middle East? Why didn't we know about the Taliban?" The news director continued: "I am always struck by how much of what passes for international coverage here is actually about American interests abroad.... But there can be no doubt after 9/11 that America needs to take a close interest in the rest of the world. And the media has to deliver that."



Copies of each report may be obtained by contacting OPC member **John Schidlovsky**, director of the Pew Program, at The Johns Hopkins University, School of Advanced International Studies, 1619 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, telephone (202) 663-7761, fax (202) 663-7762, E-mail pew@mail.jhuwash.jhu.edu

◆
Mahassen al-Emam, first woman editor-in-chief of a Jordanian newspaper, and **Andrew Kromah**, a Sierra Leone broadcaster, received the 2002 Knight International Press Fellowships Awards
(Continued on Page 6)

PEOPLE

(Continued from Page 5)

from the International Center for Journalists at a dinner honoring them in October. After becoming an editor in 1994, al-Emam established the Arab Women Media Center in Jordan, "the only one of its kind in the Arab world and opposed by most of the region's governments and the official press," the Center said, adding that she now writes only for Arab publications based in Paris or London "where she can express her views freely in her native language." Kromah established two FM radio stations in Freetown "to fill an information

WOMEN JOURNALISTS

(Continued from Page 2)

life has not changed. Women were literally being scalped while the international media was focused on new schools for girls.

When asked if they had any advantage in "getting the story" because they were women all three panelists agreed that the advantages and disadvantages cancelled each other out. In male dominated societies it was easier for women to gain the confidence of other women, but it was harder to gain access to the men in power. In trying to obtain access to the Taliban leaders of Afghanistan, Gannon usually relied on the Afghan tradition of "hospitality" to wear down the men. She would wait patiently, sometimes for days, until they felt they must see her. One of Gannon's best stories was how she would tell the Islamic men that Mohammed had only one child—a daughter. They were shocked!

In Zimbabwe, Sandra felt that there was equal opportunity violence. They threw you in jail for being a journalist regardless of womanhood.

In 2000 the OPC, with CBS and *US News & World Report* sponsorship, instituted a new award for a Russian journalist named after Artyom Borovik. It was a risky venture since we didn't even know whether we could find entrants in Russia or whether the judges in Moscow and New York could come to some common ground in choosing a winner. Anna Politkovskaya won the first Borovik award by unanimous decision of the judges and many of the New York Borovik judges were on hand at the breakfast to greet her. She told them "It's your first step, but it is my career." We knew we had done the right thing.

vacuum in the wake of Sierra Leone's devastating civil war," the Center reported. "While promoting respect for human rights and a civil society in one of the world's most hostile press environments, Kromah has nonetheless ensured that each side in the civil war had its voice heard, whether rebels, government forces or civilians." Award winners are selected annually by Knight International Press Fellows, U.S. journalists who are sent overseas to share their skills with colleagues around the globe.

IN MEMORY

Bill Shinn, 84, who scored one of the biggest scoops of the Korean War, died at his Los Angeles home Oct. 7 after a long struggle with cancer. An AP reporter during the war, Bill beat all other correspondents by flashing the first bulletin that United Nations troops had landed at Inchon behind communist lines on Sept. 15, 1950. Shinn got his world scoop by convincing a South Korean general to confirm the successful Inchon landing just hours after it happened and while the operation was still classified secret by the U.S. military.

Born **Shinn Wha-bong** in what is now North Korea, Bill studied at Hastings College in Nebraska and at the University of Nebraska after World War II. In 1949, he bought a 20-year-old Model A Ford for \$196 and drove it from Nebraska to the U.S. East Coast and then back across the country to the West Coast from where he sailed back to Korea on a passenger-freighter with his car on the deck. A few days after North Korean troops invaded South Korea, Bill was driving back to Seoul when Communist soldiers stopped him and demanded to know who he was. Shinn replied that he was a chauffeur and had stolen the Ford from the U.S. Embassy. The soldiers accepted Bill's explanation when he pointed to the Nebraska license plates on the old car.

Shinn left AP in 1959 and worked many years in Tokyo for several international news organizations before moving



Bill Shinn with the Reagans

to the United States. He was president of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan, 1976-1977, and wrote "The Forgotten War Remembered: A War Correspondent's Notebook and Today's Danger in Korea" [Elizabeth, New Jersey: Hollym International, 1996], an English-language version of his earlier book in Korean and Japanese, "Bringing Down the 38th Parallel Barrier." During the past few years while fighting cancer, Bill helped care for his wife, **Sally**, who was and remains on dialysis treatment. Bill was an amateur painter. The cartoon on the "People" column's nameplate was drawn from one of Shinn's oil portraits.

◆ OPC member **David B. Charney**, 90, who lived in Calabasas, California, died Oct. 2 in a Los Angeles hospital of complications from surgery. For 17 years, David was a reporter in New York with the *American*, *Daily Mirror* and *Daily News* and later a public relations specialist, executive of a movie and television studio, and an author. He wrote "Operation Lucifer: The Chase, Capture & Trial of Adolf Hitler," a 964-page novel published last year and relating what might have happened had Hitler lived and been brought to justice (October 2001 *Bulletin*). Charney said he wrote the book, a mix of history and fiction, because a survey indicated that many high school and college students today know little about the Nazis and the Holocaust. As a reporter, he chased Nazis and was recruited by the Office of Strategic Services, forerunner of the CIA.



David B. Charney

Charney became a Washington lobbyist, and served as an advisor to Cecil B. DeMille, Madame Chiang Kai-shek, John L. Lewis, Jimmy Hoffa, Richard Nixon, Hubert Humphrey, Dwight D. Eisenhower and Lyndon B. Johnson. For 16 years, he headed Four Star Television International, Inc., a movie and television studio formed by Hollywood actors Dick Powell, Charles Boyer and David Nevin. After selling the company, Charney retired to write novels and publish *The American Eagle*, a newsletter.

◆ **Arthur Lord**, 60, an NBC News correspondent who helped evacuate more than 100 Vietnamese in the last days of

the Vietnam War, died Sept. 25 at the University of California's Los Angeles Medical Center after being hospitalized more than two months. In 1975 with the war nearing its end, Lord arranged for 104 Vietnamese NBC employees and their families to leave the country, bribing officials with \$100 bills on the way to the airport to get them to safety. Lord joined NBC in New York in 1966 after three years as a U.S. Air Force captain and public information officer. In 1971, the network sent him to Saigon, where he reported for 18 months before becoming Houston bureau manager. NBC News sent him back to Saigon in 1975 as bureau chief. He also covered the Persian Gulf War, Apollo moon landings and the Iran hostage crisis. He won two Emmys and a Peabody, and headed NBC News' Burbank, California, bureau from 1979-1982.

◆
Philippe Wamba, 31, editor-in-chief of *Africana.com*, was killed Sept. 11 in an automobile accident in Kenya. He edited the Web site in Cambridge, Massachusetts, but moved to Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, in April after receiving an Alicia Patterson journalism fellowship to write about challenges facing African youth in the 21st century. Born in California of an African and a black American, Wamba's 1999 memoir, "Kinship: A Family's Journey in Africa

and America," explored three centuries of shared history between Africans and black Americans. He was the son of Ernest Wamba dia Wamba, a Congolese professor and one of the first rebel leaders to take up arms against then Congolese President Laurent Kabila when the four-year Congo war broke out in 1998.

◆
Charles Hines Rowe, 72, husband of OPC member **Beverly Rowe**, died of a heart attack Aug. 9 in a Newark, Ohio, hospital. Beverly, a freelance writer and poet who joined the Club in 1977, and Charles lived in the New York City area until retiring to Ohio in 1993. Before retiring, Charles was an administrative assistant at Courdet Brothers law firm, located at that time in the PanAm Building, and he was active in the New York City Democratic Party. For years the Rowes celebrated their wedding anniversary in the OPC. In retirement Beverly, former feature editor of *The Reporter-Dispatch* in White Plains, N.Y., has written columns in *The Newark Advocate* about the care she and her husband gave to feral cats (July/August 2000 *Bulletin*).



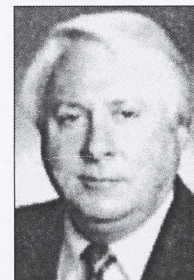
Charles H. Rowe

Three former *Stars & Stripes* staffers died in July.

Ruth Wilson, 78, a copy and news editor at *European Stars & Stripes* for four years in the late 1950s to early 1960s, died July 16. In 1962 she joined *The Milwaukee Journal* as copy editor and later became the newspaper's ombudsman, said to be the first woman to hold that post at any major U.S. paper. She retired in 1987.

Peter Michael Harrigan, 53, died in his sleep of a heart attack July 13 at his Tustin, California, home. He was copy editor, news editor and then managing editor of *Pacific Stars & Stripes* 1989-1995. Son of a New Hampshire newspaper publisher, Harrigan was a reporter for *The Union Leader* in Manchester, New Hampshire, and an editor at California's *Orange County Register* and at *The Los Angeles Times* before joining the military newspaper in Tokyo. In 1996 he returned to the *L. A. Times* as a design editor.

Thomas Gene Chambers II, who worked for *S&S's* Pacific edition 1970-1972 and later became publisher and printer of the newsletter of the European-Pacific Stars & Stripes Association, died July 5. He founded and owned Tom's Printing in Harahan, Louisiana, and owned a farm in Tennessee.



Thomas Chambers

NEW BOOKS

(Continued from Page 8)

mission. In "Inside Iran: Women's Lives" [Washington: Mage Publishers], she reports that despite the Islamic regime's harsh restrictions there have been improvements for women and children. In a *New York Times* review, Iranian author **Nahid Rachlin** wrote: "A great deal of money has been spent on schools, especially in rural areas neglected by the shah, for example, and as a result, in today's Iran (unlike Afghanistan), 97 percent of children between the ages of 6 and 10 are enrolled in primary schools. In addition, by the year 2000, more women than men were entering universities, and most women aim to get good jobs when they graduate." The author wrote that health also has improved for women: "From 1985 to 1997, the maternal mortality rate dropped from 140 deaths per 100,000 live births to 37.4 per 100,000."

SOUTH AMERICA

◆
Quinine, the malaria medicine, comes from the bark of the cinchona tree found on the inhospitable slopes of the Andes Mountains along the South American coast. About a century ago, three Englishmen risked health, life and sanity searching for the tree in hopes they could bring it to Europe for cultivation: Richard Spruce, a moss collector; Charles Ledger, a trader who hoped to make a fortune; and Clements Markham, historian, linguist and patron of Robert Scott's Antarctic expeditions. British journalist **Mark Honigsbaum** describes their search in "The Fever Trail: In Search of the Cure for Malaria" [New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux]. The adventurers encountered whirlpools, swamps, forests, sheer cliffs, frozen mountain passes, glaciers, altitude sickness, dysentery, hunger and fatigue. The author also writes about current efforts to eradicate or control malaria that still kills between 1.5 and 2.7 million people annually.

◆
John St John Cooper, a founder and a past director of the present London Press Club, died in May after a short illness. After service with the Ulster Rifles in World War II during which he lost a leg, Cooper joined Amalgamated Press, working on women's and children's papers. He later moved



John St John Cooper

to Country & Sporting Publications and edited an edition of a national weekly and published annuals. Then he and an uncle organized a public relations firm and wrote features for London's *Daily Mirror* and other publications. Cooper remained in public relations until retiring in 1990 as vice chairman of The Rowland Company, an arm of Saatchi & Saatchi.

New Books

GLOBAL

• Before he became famous as a movie star who dallied with scores of young women, often underage, **Errol Flynn** worked as a journalist in New Guinea. And just before his death in 1959 at age 49, he hiked into Cuban mountains to interview Fidel Castro. Flynn's son, **Sean Flynn**, also went into news work, a freelance photographer for UPI, *Time-Life* and other publications. He covered the Vietnam War and the Six Day War before being captured in 1970 while checking on Viet Cong activities in rural Cambodia.



Father and son: Errol and Sean Flynn

Never seen again, Sean, 29, is believed to have been beaten to death with hoes. The lives of the two Flynn's are described in "Inherited Risk: Errol and Sean Flynn in Hollywood and Vietnam" [New York: Simon & Schuster] by **Jeffrey Meyers**.

AFRICA

• In 1898 man-eating lions devoured 135 African and Indian laborers who were building a railroad bridge over the Tsavo

River in what is now Kenya. OPC member **Philip Caputo**, author of the Vietnam War memoir "A Rumor of War," traveled to Kenya's Tsavo National Park in researching "Ghosts of Tsavo: Stalking the Mystery Lions of East Africa" [National Geographic Adventure Press]. Caputo interviewed behavioral scientists on the differences between lions that eat humans and those that do not. In a *New York Times* review, **Richard Bernstein** wrote: "But while he brings us vividly along on his African trips, his book is as much an intellectual and even a philosophical adventure as it is a physical one. Mr. Caputo is always thinking and always asking questions, about lions and us and our relationship of mutual awe and animosity."



Philip Caputo

ASIA

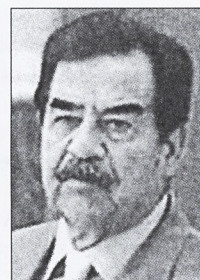
• "Larry Burrows: Vietnam" [New York: Knopf] is a tour of Vietnam's battlefields through the lens of an influential war photographer. **Larry Burrows**, *Life*, was killed Feb. 10, 1971, along with three other photographers when their helicopter was shot down over the Ho Chi Minh trail. In 1998, a Laotian-American team searching for their bodies found a Leica camera and a religious medallion that may have belonged to two of the victims. **David Halberstam**, who won a 1964 Pulitzer Prize for his *New York Times* reporting from the Vietnam War, wrote the introduction to the Burrows book.

CARIBBEAN

• In "Cuba Confidential: Love and Vengeance in Miami and Havana," investigative reporter **Ann Louise Bardach** describes how Cuban orthopedic surgeon Rodrigo Alvarez Cambras saved the life of Saddam Hussein. The author writes: "Cambras, who told me he counted 14 foreign leaders as patients, operated on Saddam Hussein in the late 1980s, removing an octopus-like tumor from his spinal column. It would have been fatal, Cambras said, if it had not been skillfully removed. In appreciation, the Iraqi despot rewarded him with a hospital in Baghdad and a large fee, which Cambras said he turned over to the Cuban government. [Fidel] Castro rewarded him with one of the lovelier homes in the Miramar section of Havana." The author continues: "When he told me that he saved Saddam's life, I was so shocked I dropped my notebook. Clearly, his medical expertise would have been better served on someone else."



Ann Louise Bardach



Saddam Hussein

MIDDLE EAST

• **Jane Howard**, a former BBC correspondent, lived in Iran from 1996-2000 while her husband was on a U.N. (Continued on Page 7)

CHRIS HEDGES
"War Is A Force
That Gives Us Meaning"
Wednesday, November 13
at 5:30pm

**BUSINESS
BREAKFAST**
With Nick Scheele
Friday, December 6
at 8:30am
\$25 - Reservations Essential

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